

Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Seminar Andrew Bowe

16 October 2014



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Cherwell
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

Format of the presentation:

- **How we have set out our objectives**
- **How we have managed the uncertainty and reacted to changes**
- **Activities we have undertaken**
- **Successes we have achieved**
- **What challenges still remain?**



Context

- **HECA 1995**
- **Kyoto Protocol 1997**
- **Climate Change Act 2008**
- **Eco towns PPS 2009**
- **Green Deal 2013**
- **Future?**



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Saving Energy

“We have the oldest and least efficient housing stock in Europe. We use more energy heating our homes than Sweden, which is nearly 5 degrees colder on average.

Our homes may be our castles. But they shouldn't cost a king's ransom to run.

Across the country, boilers are firing up earlier than they need to. Burning more gas than they have to. Producing more emissions than they should do.

And all because our homes leak heat and waste carbon.

A quarter of the UK's carbon emissions come from the home. Our housing stock is costing us the earth.”

DECC speech to CentreForum - 3 March 2011



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Objectives

- Town-wide transition
- Low carbon community/economy
- Energy saving = reduced CO₂ = Reduced energy bills
- Engagement
- Demonstration/Test-Bed/Pilot
- Innovative projects/technology
- Jobs



How we set out our objectives?

- Eco Bicester Programme:
 - Strategic Delivery Board One Shared Vision
 - Demonstration Projects
- CDC Plans and Strategies:
 - Business Plans
 - Environmental Strategy
 - Housing Strategy
 - Cherwell Local Plan



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How we managed uncertainty/reacted to changes

- **Project team/partnership approach (NEF, OBU, BioRegional, DECC, iChoosr, Green Deal Together)**
- **Focussed retrofitting on quick/easy wins**
- **Eco town funding tranches**
- **Tested Pilot projects in Bicester**



Activities we have undertaken, particularly in engaging residents

- **Communications Strategy**
- **Community Liaison Officer**
- **Demonstration projects**
- **Community Events and Door-stepping**
- **Thermal imaging**
- **Social media**
- **Leaflets and Press Releases**



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Community Engagement

cocoonyourhome.co.uk or call 0800 80 48 777

Be cool and Insulate...

A well insulated home will help keep you cool in summer as well as warm in winter.

Protect your home from the heat of the sun. Immediate effect.

Home insulation installed from **£49**

Grants and discounts to insulate your home. Cavity wall or loft insulation installed **£49** Bicester. **£99** Cherwell

A guide to energy efficiency in your Bicester home

Energy saving underway

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Bicester Green

Centre for Skills, Sustainability & Secondhand Stuff

www.ecobicester.org.uk/boilerscheme 01908 256929

EcoBicester boiler scheme

Save money • Save energy • Help protect the environment

£300 off a replacement boiler

ENERGY EFFICIENT

Funded by Eco Bicester Strategic Delivery Board. Limited funding available to Bicester residents.



What successes we have achieved

- **Delivery of a retrofit programme**
- **Loft/cavity walls insulated**
- **Raised Public Awareness**
- **Reduced bills, saved energy, CO2**
- **Portfolio of projects**
- **Funding and investment**
- **Knowledge and skills**



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Over 1,500 homes insulated



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Eco Bicester: Key milestones

- **Retrofitting programme launched – 2010**
- **Insulation scheme 2010 – 2012**
- **One Shared Vision – Dec 2010**
- **Green Deal Pioneer Places - 2013**
- **Bicester Boiler Scheme launched – 2014**
- **Best Energy Smart Initiative NEF ACE Award winner – June 2014**



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What challenges still remain?

- **Raising awareness**
- **Continued commitment**
- **Long term engagement**
- **Monitoring and review**
- **Communication**
- **Reducing carbon**
- **Changing behaviours**



Q & A session



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